

Endangered Species

An **endangered species** is any species of wildlife whose prospects for survival and reproduction are in immediate jeopardy. A **threatened species** is a species which is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future, and a **candidate species** is any species considered for possible addition to the federal *List of Endangered and Threatened Species*. Most species are endangered because of loss of habitat. However, the improper application of herbicide and insecticide can also adversely affect their numbers.

Federally listed endangered species which reside in Indiana, including their habitats/distribution are listed below. Species classified as endangered or threatened by the State of Indiana are listed in *Indiana's Rare Plants and Animals: A Checklist of Endangered and Threatened Species*. This publication is available from DNR, Division of Fish and Wildlife. For a description of their distribution, consult the Indiana Natural Heritage Data Center, a unit of the Division of Nature Preserves, DNR.

It is important to remember that the purpose of both the state and federal endangered species legislation is to recover species. To accomplish recovery, species have to be maintained not only where they currently occur, but their former habitat has to be either maintained or improved. Without population growth and expansion into currently unoccupied portions of their former range, the species cannot be delisted. **Therefore best management practices and the safe and judicial use of pesticides and herbicides should be practiced at all times and in all places.**

Endangered and threatened species are by definition rare and difficult to survey. Location information is constantly being updated, and some of the information below may be revised with additions and deletions of locations in the future.

FEDERALLY LISTED ENDANGERED SPECIES RESIDING IN INDIANA

Animals

- **bald eagle** (bird) habitat - large lakes located all across the state
- **peregrine falcon** (bird) habitat - Lake, Allen and Marion Counties
- **least tern** (bird) habitat - Gibson County
- **piping plover** (bird) habitat - Great Lakes watershed
- **Indiana bat/gray bat** (mammals) habitat - caves and large, loose bark on trees located all across the state

DO NOT CLEAR LARGE TREES WITH LOOSE BARK (NURSERY TREES) BETWEEN APRIL 15 AND SEPTEMBER 15. THIS IS THE TIME PERIOD WHEN INDIANA BATS GIVE BIRTH AND RAISE THEIR YOUNG.

- several species of **mussels'** habitat - stream beds of large and some minor waterways.
 - fanshell mussel** - distribution Carroll, Cass, Fountain, Gibson, Knox, Martin, Posey, Sullivan, Tippecanoe, Vermillion, Vigo, Wabash, Warren and White Counties

ring pink mussel - distribution Fountain, Gibson, Harrison, Knox, Lawrence, Posey, Sullivan, Tippecanoe, Vermillion, Vigo and Warren Counties

orange-footed pearly mussel - distribution Gibson and Posey Counties

tuberculed-blossom pearly mussel - distribution Carroll, Gibson, Fountain, Fulton, Jackson, Knox, Kosciusko, Posey, Sullivan, Pulaski, Tippecanoe, Vermillion, Vigo and Warren Counties

northern riffleshell mussel - distribution Pulaski County

white cat's paw pearly mussel - distribution Allen, DeKalb and Warren Counties (Ohio and White Rivers)

purple cat's paw pearly mussel - distribution Indiana. However, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has had no reported sightings in Indiana in over twenty years.

white wartyback pearly mussel - distribution Posey, Tippecanoe, Vermillion and Vigo Counties (Ohio River)

rough pigtoe mussel - distribution Martin, Carroll, Knox, Posey, Sullivan, Tippecanoe, Vigo and Warren Counties (East fork of White River)

fat pocketbook mussel - distribution Carroll, Clark, Gibson, Knox, Posey, Tippecanoe and Owen Counties

winged mapleleaf - distribution Indiana. However, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has had no reported sightings in Indiana in over twenty years.

cracking pearly mussel - distribution Indiana. However, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has had no reported sightings in Indiana in over twenty years.

pink mucket pearly mussel - distribution Indiana. However, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has had no reported sightings in Indiana in over twenty years.

clubshell mussel - distribution DeKalb, Fulton, Kosciusko, Marshall, Pulaski, Tippecanoe and White Counties

- **American burying beetle** (insect) - distribution Indiana. However, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has had no reported sightings in Indiana in over twenty years.
- **Mitchell's satyr butterfly** (insect)- distribution LaGrange, LaPorte and Steuben Counties
- **Karner blue butterfly** (insect) - distribution Elkhart, Lake, LaGrange, LaPorte, Parke, Porter, St Joseph and Wabash Counties

Plants

- **pitcher's thistle** - Lake and Porter Counties
- **running buffalo clover** - Clark, Delaware, Jefferson, Marion and Ohio Counties
- **Meads milkweed** - distribution; along lower Wabash and Ohio Rivers. However, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has had no reported sightings in Indiana in over twenty years.
- **eastern prairie fringed orchid** - distribution Indiana. However, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has had no reported sightings in Indiana in over twenty years.

SOME STATE THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

- **northern copperbelly watersnake** - Dubois, Gibson, Jackson, Jennings, Pike, Posey, St. Joseph, Scott, Spencer, Steuben, Warrick and Washington Counties. *Species candidate for federal listing and should be treated as though it were federally listed currently.*
- **blind cave fish** - habitat karst cave systems (see the next page for a map of karst area in Indiana)

Clearing trees, working in karst areas, and in channel work in large rivers can all be done without adversely effecting an endangered, threatened or candidate species. Either the environmental document or the permit will let you know if such species are in the proximity of your project. Permits will have specific conditions developed to protect such species. These conditions must be complied with. Contact the Division of Operations Support should you have questions regarding endangered, threatened or candidate species.